

11198

## DEPARTMENT OF STATE TELEGRAM

CABLE SECRETARIAT DISSEM BY Dep

PER #

TOTAL COPIES

REPRO BY

FILE RF.

OULOR4 OULICO 4

25X1A CRF [ ] INDICO OER2 ONE OGC OLC JAVAZ

25X1A CA3 CS/DO DDP [ ]

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

HCF140

PAGE 01 STATE 150512

92

ORIGIN EA-15

INFO OCT-01 SS-20 PM-05 H-02 --CIAE-00 INR-08 NSAE-00 RSC-01  
 DODE-00 NSC-10 PRS-10 5-12-70 USIA-12 15-152 10-2-70 AID-28  
 TRSY-11 /140 R

66638

DRAFTED BY EA K BCROWBERG LM

APPROVED BY EA K DLARNARD

110672

R 142236Z SEP 70  
 FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
 TO AMEMBASSY SEOUL  
 INFO CINCPAC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 150512

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

SUBJ: PRESS REACTION TO SYMINGTON SUBCOMMITTEE TRANSCRIPT

1. PRESS (NY TIMES, WASHINGTON POST) GAVE MAIN PLAY TO ALLEGATION THAT ROK TROOP PRESENCE IN VIET-NAM HAS COST U.S. DOLS 1 BILLION. INCLUDED IN THIS FIGURE WERE SUCH ITEMS AS THOS FOR PROCUREMENT (DOLS 195 MILLION) AND CONTRACTUAL SERVICES (DOLS 320 MILLION) WHICH WRE UNRELATED TO DIRECT COSTS OF MAINTAINING ROK TROOPS. NO RECOGNITION WAS GIVEN TO FACT THAT THESE FUNDS, IF NOT DIRECTED TO KOREA TO BOLSTER LATTER'S ECONOMY, WOULD HAVE IN ANY EVENT BEEN EXPENDED ELSEWHERE. BOTH TIMES AND POST NOTED THAT CURRENT ANNUAL COST TO U.S. TO MAINTAIN A ROK SOLDIER IN VIET-NAM WAS ABOUT DOLS 5,000 AS AGAINST DOLS 13,000 FOR AN AMERICAN SOLDIER.

2. TIMES (HALLORAN) SUMMARIZED EXCHANGE REGARDING REASONS WHY BROWN LETTER WAS KEPT SECRET. BOTH TIMES AND POST NOTED THAT NO GUARANTEE HAD BEEN MADE TO ROK AGAINST AMERICAN TROOP REDUCTIONS, AND ADDED THAT SINCE DATE OF HEARING REDUCTION HAD IN FACT BEEN ANNOUNCED. HALLORAN COMMENTED THAT ROKS HAD

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

CABLE SECRETARIAT DISSEM BY

PER #

TOTAL COPIES:

REPRO BY

FILE RF.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 STATE 150512

OPPOSED REDUCTION AND WERE PRESSING FOR DOLS 3 BILLION IN  
ADDITIONAL MAP.

3. ROK EFFORTS TO OBTAIN "MORE AUTOMATIC" RESPONSE TO ATTACK  
WERE REPORTED IN POST. ONLY REFERENCE TO NORTH-SOUTH RELATIONS  
APPEARED IN TIMES WHICH STATED THAT PORTER TESTIMONY, "ALTHOUGH  
CENSORED, CLEARLY IMPLIED THAT THE SOUTH KOREANS HAD CONDUCTED  
ARMED RAIDS INTO NORTH KOREA".

4. MARQUIS CHILDS SEPTEMBER 14 COLUMN HEADED "PARTNERS IN  
WAR HAVE COSTLY TAG", STATED THAT TRANSCRIPT REVEALS  
"STARTLING FACTS HITHERTO KEPT SECRET". CHILDS ASSERTS THAT  
ROK TROOPS WERE "ESSENTIALLY MERCENARIES. THEY MAY NOT HAVE  
FOUGHT ...SOLELY FOR PAY. BUT THEY WOULD NEVER HAVE GONE TO  
VIET-NAM IF THEIR GOVERNMENT HAD NOT EXACTED A HIGH PRICE  
FOR THEIR COMMITMENT." CHILDS STORY ALSO TOOK SAME LINE AS  
OTHER TWO THAT COST TO U.S. FOR KOREAN FORCE WAS JUST UNDER  
DOLS 1 BILLION.

5. NO QUESTIONS REGARDING TRANSCRIPT WERE RAISED AT DEPARTMENT  
SPOKESMAN'S NOON BRIEFING TODAY. ROGERS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE